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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/417,863	10/13/1999	JEFFRY JOVAN PHILYAW	PHLY-24.767	8055
25883	7590	10/20/2005	EXAMINER	
HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.			BLAIR, DOUGLAS B	
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DALLAS, TX 75374-1715			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/417,863

Applicant(s)

PHILYAW ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas B. Blair

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1-30 are currently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-2, 5, 10-11, 15-17, 20, 25-26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,238,290 to Tarr et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,002,852 to Birdwell et al..
3. Tarr teaches the invention substantially as claimed (As in claim 16) including a system for distributing software, comprising: a television broadcast distribution system having one or more broadcast channels for broadcasting analog and digital television information to a receiver of a user (col. 6, lines 44-65); one or more discrete software data streams designated for transmission on select ones of said one or more broadcast channels, each of the one or more discrete data streams having a unique ID associated therewith, which unique ID for each of the one or more discrete software streams is associated therewith by an associated software vendor and each of the unique ID's is unique to a user (col. 8, lines 46-57, the streams can be encrypted, therefore they would have a key unique to the user); a user storage device connected to said receiver through a monitoring interface and said user storage device operable to store both one or more of the unique ID's associated with the user prior to downloading of the one or more discrete software data streams and, after downloading thereof, for storing said selected one or more discrete software data streams wherein each of said unique ID's stored in said user interface is stored there by the user (col. 8, lines 46-57, the key to decrypt the software would be

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stored on the user's machine); wherein said one or more software data streams are transmitted over said selected ones of said one or more broadcast channels at a scheduled time, each of said one or more discrete software data streams having associated therewith a unique ID associated therewith (col. 6, lines 44-65); wherein said select ones of said one or more discrete software data streams are downloaded via said receiver to said monitoring interface for filtering said discrete software data streams according to said respective unique ID's (col. 8, lines 46-57); however, Tarr does not explicitly teach a system where after downloading of one or more unique data streams and wherein the unique ID is deleted after downloading.

Birdwell teaches associating a user with a user storage device associated with the user operable to store both one or more of the unique ID's associated with the user prior to downloading of one or more discrete software data streams and after downloading of one or more unique data streams and wherein the unique ID is deleted after downloading (col. 10, lines 57-67 and col. 11, lines 1-25).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Tarr regarding software download to a set-top box with the teachings of Birdwell regarding deleting ID's after downloading is complete because deleting already used ideas would save space in memory.

4. As to claim 17, Tarr teaches a system wherein a cable television broadcast system is used (col. 6, lines 44-65).

5. As to claim 20, Tarr teaches a system wherein one or more software data streams are broadcast repetitively during a specific period of time (col. 6, lines 44-65).

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6. As to claim 25, Tarr teaches a system wherein a receiver is programmed by inputting parameters which comprise time (col. 6, lines 44-65), channel, and unique ID information (col. 6, lines 44-65).

7. As to claim 26, Tarr teaches a system wherein one or more software data streams comprise software applications which are broadcast on a first channel, and one or more software updates which are broadcast on a second channel (col. 6, lines 16-31).

8. As to claim 30, Tarr teaches a system wherein said television broadcast distribution system is a digital television broadcast system (col. 6, lines 44-65).

9. As to claims 1-2, 5, 10-11, and 15, they feature the same limitations as claims 16-17, 20, 25-26 and 30 and are thus rejected on the same basis as claims 16-17, 20, 25-26 and 30.

10. Claims 3-4 and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,238,290 to Tarr et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,002,852 to Birdwell et al. in further of view of U.S. Patent Number 5,666,293 to Metz et al..

11. As to claim 18, the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination combine to make the teachings of claim 16 obvious; however, they do not explicitly teach a system wherein the one or more software data streams are checked for errors when being downloaded.

Metz teaches a system wherein the one or more software data streams are checked for errors when being downloaded (col. 37, lines 44-59).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination regarding a system for downloading software with the teachings of Metz regarding checking for errors because a downloaded data stream would be useless if it had errors.

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12. As to claim 19, Metz teaches a system wherein the receiver automatically re-selects for download, and downloads, one or more software data streams which fail the error checking process (col. 37, lines 44-59).

13. As to claims 3-4, they feature the same limitations as claims 18-19 and are rejected for the same reasons as claims 18-19.

14. Claims 6, 12-14, 21 and 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,238,290 to Tarr et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,002,852 to Birdwell et al. in further of view of U.S. Patent Number 5,894,516 to Brandenburg.

15. As to claim 21, the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination combine to make the teachings of claim 16 obvious; however, they do not explicitly teach a system in which the data streams are broadcast only one during a specific time period.

Brandenburg teaches a system where one or more software data streams are broadcast once during a specific time period (col. 3, lines 59-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination regarding a system for downloading software with the teachings of Brandenburg regarding broadcasting a data stream once because broadcasting a data stream only once reduces the bandwidth necessary for software transmission (Brandenburg, col. 1, lines 36-51).

16. As to claim 27, the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination combine to make claim 16 obvious; however they do not explicitly teach a user computer attached to the receiver receiving software.

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Brandenburg teaches a system wherein select ones of said one or more software data streams are downloaded directly to a user computer over a communication link existing between said receiver and said user computer (col. 4, lines 54-61).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Tarr-Birdwell regarding a system for downloading software with the teachings of Brandenburg for distributing software from a receiver to a user computer because downloading software to a receiver device before installing it on a user computer enhances security (col. 4, lines 27-61).

17. As to claim 28, the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination combines to teach the system as described by claim 27; however the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination does not explicitly teach a system featuring a universal serial bus.

Official notice is taken that it is well known in the art of computer networking that two computers can be linked using a universal serial bus.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination regarding to computers linked together with the idea of using a universal serial bus to link the computers because a universal serial bus is an easy and efficient way to link to computers together.

18. As to claim 29, the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination combines to teach the system as described by claim 27; however the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination does not explicitly teach a system featuring a high-performance serial bus.

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Official notice is taken that it is well known in the art of computer networking that two computers can be linked using a high-performance serial bus.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell-Brandenburg combination regarding to computers linked together with the idea of using a high-performance serial bus to link the computers because a high-performance serial bus is an easy and efficient way to link to computers together.

19. As to claims 6 and 12-14, they feature the same limitations as claims 21 and 27-29 and are thus rejected on the same basis as claims 21 and 27-29.

20. Claims 7-8 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,238,290 to Tarr et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,002,852 to Birdwell et al. in further view of U.S. Patent Number 5,003,384 to Durden.

21. As to claim 22, the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination combine to make claim 16 obvious. Tarr teaches the use of unique ID's to represent one or more software data streams (col. 9, lines 56-67 and col. 10, lines 1-12); however, the Tarr-Birdwell combination does not explicitly teach an accounting device.

Durden teaches a system wherein an accounting device logs unique ID's of one or more programs which were downloaded, and transmits said unique ID's to a provider of one or more data streams using said accounting device (col. 8, lines 24-68 and col. 9, lines 1-30).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell combination regarding the distribution of software with the teachings of Durden regarding the storage and uploading of

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accounting data because an accounting device is useful for billing for broadcast services (Durden, col. 2, lines 11-39).

22. As to claim 23, Durden teaches a system wherein an accounting device interfaces to a public-switched telephone network, and transmits said unique ID's over said public-switched telephone network to a provider of one or more data streams (col. 8, lines 24-68 and col. 9, lines 1-30).

23. As to claims 7-8, they feature the same limitations as claims 22-23 and are thus rejected on the same basis as claims 22-23.

24. Claims 9 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,238,290 to Tarr et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,002,852 to Birdwell et al. and U.S. Patent Number 5,003,384 to Durden in further view of U.S. Patent Number 6,317,885 to Fries.

25. As to claim 24, the Tarr-Birdwell-Durden combination combine to make claim 22 obvious; however they do not explicitly teach the use of a packet-switched global communication network to transmit accounting data.

Fries teaches a television set-top box that is directly connected to the internet (col. 4, lines 29-43).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Tarr-Birdwell-Durden combination regarding the distribution of software and the uploading of accounting data with the teachings of Fries regarding a television set-top box connected to the internet because transmitting data over a

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packet-switched global network would be a more modern alternative to Durden method of sending accounting data over the telephone network.

26. As to claim 9, it features the same limitations as claim 24 and is thus rejected on the same basis as claim 24.

Response to Arguments

27. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

28. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas B. Blair whose telephone number is 571-272-3893. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3890.

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Douglas Blair
October 16, 2005

DBB

Andrew Caldwell

ANDREW CALDWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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